

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are cancelled. Claims 15-20 are added. Claims 15-20 are pending in the application.

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's indicated allowability of the subject matter of claims 9-14.

Claims 1, 4-6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Busta, U.S. Patent No. 4,685,996. Claims 2, 3 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Busta. Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over a combination of Gray, U.S. Patent No. 4,307,507; and Manalis, U.S. Patent No. 6,156,216. Without admission as to the propriety of the Examiner's objection, claims 1-8 are cancelled.

Claims 9-14 are rewritten as claims 15-20 such that claims 15, 17 and 19 are written in independent form to include all the limitations of the claim(s) from which they formerly depended. Claims 16, 18 and 20 depend correspondingly from claims 15, 17 and 19. Claims 9-14 are appropriately cancelled. Claims 15-20 are allowable for at least the reason that they recite subject matter indicated as allowable by the Examiner.

The amendments discussed above place the application in condition for immediate allowance. Accordingly, formal allowance of claims 15-20 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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